

SPANISH PROGRAMS

FY- 2014 WHA Regional Projects

FIRST QUARTER

Project Title: Edward R. Murrow Program for Journalists

Dates: October 28 - November 15, 2013

This special initiative for young, up and coming media professionals working in print, broadcast and social media will examine the rights and responsibilities of a free press in a democracy. Participants will explore the operational practices, standards, and institutions of the media in the U.S. and gain insight into American social, economic, and political structures. Unique features of this project include a day-long symposium highlighting current trends and challenges in the media profession and foreign affairs reporting; and partner university programs focused on the implementation of journalistic principals in a democratic society.

Project Title: Minority Participation in the Political Process

Dates: November 4 - 22, 2013

This project is specifically designed for African descendants and indigenous peoples from the Western Hemisphere and those who advance civil and human rights for these groups. This project addresses the Summit of the Americas subtheme of "poverty and inequality". Participants will explore the growing involvement of various minority groups in the political process. They will also examine the challenges of political organization for minority groups and the organizational tools that assist minorities in gaining representation. In addition, they will explore government policies and legal mechanisms that protect and advance civil rights for all. Social inclusion efforts, including in education and commerce, will be addressed in historical and contemporary contexts.

Project Title: 100,000 Strong - Expanding International Exchange in Higher Education

Date: November 4 - 22, 2013

This project is for university and community college presidents, provosts, directors of international student offices and Ministry of Education officials. This project is the second in a series of projects that support the "100,000 Strong in the Americas" initiative announced by President Obama in March 2011. The project will focus on the internationalization of higher education and expansion of institutional linkages and exchanges between the U.S. and Latin America. Visitors will explore the range and diversity of the U.S.

tertiary education sector, different approaches to internationalization, recruiting and serving foreign students, study abroad programs, research collaboration and other faculty-to-faculty links, and dual degree programs. In addition, the project will explore the role of community colleges, vocational/technical schools, distance learning and certificate programs as alternatives to traditional university degree programs, paving different avenues to the job market. Through this project, institutional leaders and educators will be better positioned to support regular student exchange programs. Specifically, participants will learn how to establish and utilize international student offices so as to make broader connections within the higher education community.

Project Title: Women and Children in the Justice System (Hague Abduction Convention)

Date: December 2 - 20, 2013

Missions should nominate judges, magistrates, lawyers, journalists, law professors, and government officials who work for participant countries' Hague Convention central authorities or other agencies. This project will focus on how the Hague Abduction Convention is implemented in the United States. The participants will interact with prosecutors and judges, at both the state and federal levels, and private mediators who handle family law matters in child abduction cases. Participants will visit various governmental and non-governmental organizations to discuss resources and protections available to victims of domestic violence, the role of law enforcement in locating abducted children, and repatriation cases and how they interact with state social service systems.

Project Title: U.S. Drug Control Policy and Demand Reduction Efforts

Date: December 2 - 20, 2013

Missions should nominate government officials with responsibility for drug reduction and control policies, representatives of community and non-governmental organizations that fight illicit drug use, health professionals, educators and Ministry of Education officials, and journalists. This project will examine U.S. strategies to address the problem of illicit drug use in the U.S., with a primary focus on demand reduction efforts. It will also explore public and private sector responses to illicit drug use through prevention, education, and treatment programs in schools, the workplace, and communities. In addition, the visitors will explore current anti-drug measures and cooperation among law enforcement entities at the international, national, and state levels.

SECOND QUARTER

Project Title: Engaging Underserved and At-Risk Youth

Date: January 13 - 31, 2014

This project is designed for educators, NGO representatives and youth leaders, particularly those who work with immigrant, minority and disenfranchised communities. This project will examine a variety of educational, social, and recreational programs for at-risk and underprivileged youth. Such programs include family support initiatives, sports and after-school activities, truancy and dropout prevention, job training, and programs to counter gang activity and substance abuse. Participants will explore the efforts of schools, community-based organizations, and faith-based groups to intervene early before problem behaviors turn into delinquency and gang involvement.

Project Title: LGBT Rights

Date: January 27 -February 14, 2014

This project is intended for human rights advocates who specialize in LGBT issues. The project will introduce various non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that champion LGBT rights to ways in which they can bring their agendas to the attention of policy makers at the federal, state and local levels. Discussions and site visits will emphasize legislative initiatives and legal protections that promote tolerance, safeguard civil liberties, and protect the LGBT community from violence and discrimination.

Project Title: Social Entrepreneurship

Date: February 10 - 28, 2014

This project is intended for young and mid-level entrepreneurs in a wide variety of industries. This project is designed to examine the role of social entrepreneurship in job creation, how the community benefits from the work social entrepreneurs do, and why entrepreneurs should view their role as one of giving service to their country. Participants will examine the concept of social entrepreneurship as well as government initiatives that support civic engagement and innovation. They will explore successful models of social entrepreneurship and the impact of social media on traditional methods of fundraising, grassroots mobilization and strategic collaboration.

Project Title: Trade and Finance - Latin America and the Global Economy

Date: February 24 - March 14, 2014

This project is intended for government officials, economic analysts, academics, NGO leaders, and journalists. This project will address the current state of trade and finance with emphasis on the evolving role of Latin America in the global economy. Discussions and visits will underscore the implications of fiscal, monetary, and taxation policies on trade relations. Meetings will also highlight the benefits of trade in reaching the poor through regional programs such as Pathways to Prosperity, which promotes inclusive prosperity and regional

competitiveness. Participants will have opportunities to engage with counterparts on the impact of NAFTA on member states and hear perspectives from federal and state governments, businesses, the financial sector, interest groups, and multilateral institutions on trade within the region.

Project Title: The American Language Connecting English Teachers with U.S. History and Culture

Date: March 17 - April 4, 2014

This project is intended for primary and secondary school teachers of English as a Second Language and English as a Foreign Language, community English language instructors, and policy makers with responsibility for English language instruction. This project seeks to better acquaint English teachers with the American English language and how it is taught in the U.S. The U.S. is home to approximately two-thirds of the native speakers of English in the world, and although the U.S. has no official language, the American English language and its many dialects reflect a rich American history and culture. The participants will examine the relationship between American history and the development of American English. They will also be exposed to U.S. governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations that influence English language education policy and practice. Travel to diverse geographical regions of the U.S. will allow the participants to interact with Americans who speak various dialects of American English and examine how these unique dialects are a reflection of a rich culture and history.

THIRD QUARTER

Project Title: Administration of Justice

Date: April 7 - 25, 2014

Missions should nominate lawyers, judges, law professors and Ministry of Justice officials. Journalists who cover legal matters may also participate. This project will examine the philosophical and practical aspects of the U.S. judicial and legal systems with an emphasis on federalism and the separation of powers. Discussions and site visits will focus on court administration, the criminal and juvenile justice systems, the trial by jury process, and alternative dispute resolution and mediation. Participants will also explore U.S. judicial reform efforts, ethics and judicial training, and specialty courts such as family and drug courts.

Project Title: Combating International Crime

Date: April 14 - May 2, 2014

This project is designed for government and law enforcement officials, prosecuting and private attorneys, academics, immigration officials and others who deal with international crime issues. This project is not intended for journalists. Participants will examine U.S. policies and strategies dealing with a broad spectrum of international organized crime including

trafficking in persons, arms, and narcotics and financial crimes such as money laundering. The project will also address cooperation and information sharing among law enforcement and coordinating agencies at the national level as well as collaboration with governments and law enforcement entities in the Western Hemisphere.

Project Title: We Americas program for Women Entrepreneurs

Date: May 5 - 23, 2014

Missions should nominate women entrepreneurs and business leaders. A follow-on to the 2012 Summit of the Americas, "Connecting the Americas: Partners for Prosperity," this project focuses on supporting social and economic opportunity and equality for women in Latin America, and addresses key barriers to women starting and expanding SMEs. Participants will examine ways in which the U.S. fosters the advancement of women in business, industry, and the corporate sector. Participants will explore a variety of mentorship, job shadowing, education and skills development programs offered by government, colleges and universities, corporations, businesses, and private sector associations to prepare women to become successful business owners and managers of small, medium, and large businesses. The project will showcase programs that provide access to business capital and assistance with business promotion and marketing.

Project Title: Environmental Protection and Biodiversity

Date: May 19 - June 6, 2014

Missions should nominate environmentalists, ministry of environment representatives, government officials, academics, environmental journalists, and representatives of non-governmental organizations working on land use and water management issues. Landscape changes from agriculture, forestry, fishing, urban sprawl, and transportation infrastructure are a principal cause of biodiversity losses in the Western Hemisphere. This project will address the need to conserve the biodiversity of various land and water environments and explore how local and regional land use decisions influence biodiversity protection efforts in the United States. Participants will also examine challenges in urban and agricultural landscapes as well as U.S. efforts to protect species and habitat diversity through watershed management and wetlands mitigation.

Project Title: Energy Security in the Western Hemisphere

Date: June 9 - 27, 2014

This project is intended for government officials, political leaders, policy analysts, academics, NGO leaders, and journalists involved in developing, interpreting, explaining and influencing policies on energy security. This project will address the unprecedented challenges in global energy supply and distribution. Through meetings with policy makers, industry leaders, researchers, and citizen groups, participants will learn about the impact of threats to regional energy markets and discuss the development of alternative

energy supplies and other strategies for energy independence. In addition, the project will highlight successful, innovative Public-private partnerships aimed at producing and expanding energy supplies while preserving the environment.

FOURTH QUARTER

Project Title: Law Enforcement and Community Policing

Date: July 7 - 25, 2014

Missions should nominate law enforcement officers and instructors, educators, municipal leaders, NGO representatives and journalists concerned with community security. This project will examine policing in rural and urban areas and strategies to nurture a culture of lawfulness through community engagement. Participants will discuss the dichotomy police officers face between maintaining public order and protecting the rights of individuals. They will also look at the ramifications for communities that have lost confidence in their police force and strategies to regain that trust. The visitors will meet citizen action groups to discuss methods to assess the needs of the public, including neighborhood crime prevention programs. They will also examine programs in schools, in the community, and in the workplace that promote the values and practices that make a community governable. Youth engagement will be a significant theme of this project, as will issues related to the Summit of the Americas and the Caribbean and Central American security initiatives.

Project Title: Title: Combating Trafficking in Persons

Date: July 14 - August 1, 2014

Missions should nominate government officials, legislators, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and representatives of non-governmental, human rights, and community organizations. This project will examine the global problem of trafficking in persons, including prevention efforts and assistance, and protection for victims. Participants will examine the roles that government, police, the courts, and the community play in detecting, preventing, and prosecuting trafficking crimes. They will also explore anti-trafficking legislation, public education, outreach methods, and best practices to prevent trafficking in persons, including prosecution and enforcement of sentences against traffickers. Participants will learn about initiatives to assist victims through the provision of services and social reintegration programs.

Project Title: Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development

Date: July 28 - August 15, 2014

This project is designed for entrepreneurs, small business owners, government officials, and others involved in economic and small business development. This project will examine the role of small

business in driving economic development and the skills necessary to achieve entrepreneurial success. Participants will explore a variety of business models that support small business growth, with particular emphasis on initiatives that address current national and global economic challenges. Discussions and site visits will highlight the social, economic, and political factors that encourage the development of private enterprise, including the spirit of innovation, managerial skills, government incentives, access to credit and venture capital, business incubators, and public-private partnerships.

Project Title: Promoting Women's Issues in the Political System

Date: August 11 - 29, 2014

Missions should nominate community activists, politicians and elected officials at all levels, academics in women's studies, and representatives of organizations devoted to advocating for women's rights and a greater role for women in the local and national political arena. This project will explore policies that promote women's advancement and gender equality in the United States and the importance of advocating for gender balance in the political system. Participants will examine the accomplishments of the women's rights movement in the U.S. and current issues concerning women's rights in the workplace, healthcare, child care and education, as well as equal protection under the law. .

Project Title: Transparency and Accountability in Government

Date: September 8 - 26, 2014

Missions should nominate political and community leaders, government officials, activists, academics, teachers, journalists, and representatives of watchdog organizations. This project will examine the critical role of citizen participation in the democratic process. Participants will explore the interplay among interest groups, local concerns, and the media - including new media - and the ways they influence the public agenda. Economic, social and cultural aspects of the U.S. democratic process will also be examined.

Project Title: Women Leaders: Promoting Peace and Security

Date: September 8 - 26, 2014

Participants should include women who are community activists, elected officials, teachers, and representatives of institutions devoted to preparing women for leadership roles in peacemaking, conflict resolution, and citizen security. This project, part of a global initiative with women from other regions, will focus on how women advocate for peace, promote stability and improve security conditions in their communities. The project addresses women's leadership opportunities by exploring ways in which they can lead in conflict mediation and community transformation. This project supports the U.S. National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2011), which calls for the empowerment of women as equal partners in

preventing conflict and building peace in countries threatened and affected by war, violence, and insecurity. Meetings and site visits will highlight women leaders and organizations actively engaged in mediating conflicts and disputes arising from political, socioeconomic, ethnic, religious, and regional differences. In addition, this project will familiarize the visitors with strategies for directing positive political, social and economic change in a democratic society. Through meetings, workshops and roundtable discussions, the group will examine essential leadership skills needed to balance divergent social demands and interests when confronting political, social, and economic challenges.

Project Title: Grassroots Democracy and Citizen Activism

Date: September 22 - October 10, 2014

This project is intended for political and community leaders, youth activists, academics, teachers and journalists. This project will examine the critical role of citizen participation in the democratic process. Participants will examine how citizen groups, community and political organizations, candidates, and election officials prepare and organize for elections at the national, state and local levels.

Participants will explore the interplay among interest groups, local communities and the media and the ways they influence the public agenda. Discussions and site visits will illustrate the involvement of youth in political campaigning, organizing, advocacy, volunteering and other types of political and civic activities. The project will also demonstrate the extensive use of the Internet and social media as tools for political and social mobilization among youth.